

REMARKS

The preliminary amendment is submitted concurrently with a response to the Examiners Restriction Requirement and along with a request to amend the drawings. In this amendment the specification has been amended and claims 1, 2, 10, 11, 14, 22, 26, 28, and 34, have been amended. Claims 1-48 remain pending in the application.

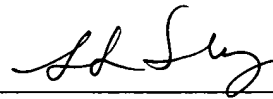
It is noted that the amendments to the specifications have been made to correct idiomatic and typographical errors. Amendments to the claims have been made to provide a more clear, accurate and idiomatically correct recitation of the invention. It is believed that no new matter has been introduced by these amendments.

As to the amendments to the brief description of Figures 1 and 2, the amendment removed the phrases: "according to an exemplary embodiment of the invention" and "according to an embodiment of the invention." It is believed that these phrases were inserted inadvertently and therefore their removal is warranted in view of the disclosure as originally filed. A corresponding amendment to the drawings is presented.

For the above reasons, consideration and entry of the amendments are hereby respectfully requested. Examination on the merits of claims 1-48 is hereby also requested. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to deposit account 50-2778.

Date: August 27, 2003

Respectfully submitted



Leah Sherry, Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 43,918

DECHERT LLP

Customer No. 37509

Telephone: 650.813.4800

Facsimile: 650.813.4848

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited (along with any paper referred to herein) with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail addressed to: Mail Stop Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA, 22313-1450, on

Date: August 27, 2003

by

Yvette Yturralde-Owen